

# GOGAI! GOGAI!

Central Park Media's  
Industry Fanzine  
& Literary Review

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fig. 1: Hoshimaru plushies grooving out at Tataru's desk / Hoshimaru © Mohiro Kitou / Kodansha

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# Hello, Ohayo, and Ahoy

## (What is this thing? How can I win free stuff?)

By Peter Tatara

Hello, Ohayo, and Ahoy. Also, Greetings, Aloha, and Salutations. Welcome to the first issue of Central Park Media's Anime University magazine – *Gogai! Gogai!* But what exactly is *Gogai! Gogai!*, and why should you keep reading it (and also get all your friends reading it, too)?

*Gogai! Gogai!* is the main component of Central Park Media's Anime University fanclub program. It's a common ground for fans and industry folks, alike. It's a place where you can share your thoughts about classics and current trends in animation. It's a place where CPM will talk about what it's really like on the inside. What exactly does that mean? Every month, *Gogai! Gogai!* will have a backbone of information and articles supplied by myself and others at CPM, but – like I just said – this is the backbone. All the flesh, muscle, substance, and form's

going to come from you. If you want to write reviews, go for it! If you want to write an editorial, start typing! If you want to share your first experience with Ramune or Pocky, we want to hear that, too! Got tips on making the perfect cosplay costume? Let's hear 'em! *Gogai! Gogai!* is going to be what you make of it. It's going to go in whatever direction you want it to go.

Do I really think an industry-fanzine will work? I do. I've seen the talent in anime clubs again and again. I founded an anime club in my high school and served as Secretary and then President of the anime club at my college. I was repeatedly astonished by the level, quality, and amount of work club members were capable of. It's my hope *Gogai! Gogai!* can tap into that and produce something amazingly, wonderfully great.

I joined CPM directly out of college and my college's anime club. Since joining, re-inventing Anime University's been one of my big goals. Talking to fans throughout the summer, they've told me what, in a club outreach program, it is they most want to see, and two things always appeared at the top of their lists.

The first? *DVDs*. Screeners. Swag. Free stuff in the mail. Well, let me tell you, the free stuff is in the mail. Start politely asking (and/or generally pestering) your President if he or she doesn't bring in a box with an exclusive screener and CPM swag really soon.

The second? *Interaction*. All the clubs I've talked to have wanted a program that involved them. Something dynamic. Something enriching. Something rewarding. It's my sincere hope that Anime Uni-

versity and *Gogai! Gogai!* are that. But, whether or not *Gogai! Gogai!* becomes something great ultimately depends on you. Did you sketch a kickass samurai? Maybe you drew a mecha with laser eyes and buzzsaw hands. If you've got art, too, you'd like to be seen by anime fans across the country, send it to *Gogai! Gogai!* And if the admiration of your peers isn't enough to get you involved, I'm bribing you.

*Gogai! Gogai!* will pick two submissions each month and send the writers/artists and their clubs super-special prize packs with the latest DVDs, piles of swag, and even some genuine CPM office supplies.

And with that, welcome to *Gogai! Gogai!* Read it. Respond to the polls. Maybe even write about what interests you. This is your mag. Its future is up to you.

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# It's Hammer Time!

By Peter Tatara *(Inside Korea's littlest hero's biggest adventure.)*

First, I'm sorry for the title. I'm really, really sorry. At first, I thought it was clever. Then, I thought it was sad. Then, I got lazy. Maybe I should have changed it. Oh well, spilt milk and all that, right?

Central Park Media's releasing the most spectacular film you've never heard of this month. What's its name? *Hammerboy*. An award-winning film coming from the studios of South Korea, *Hammerboy* is the story of the tiny Mangchi, an inhabitant of a remote island, and the great big adventure that follows his discovery of a runaway princess.

There's action, comedy, and striking animation. Yet, for a film that's been compared to the works of Hayao Miyazaki, why – most likely – is it new to you? Because, as I said above, *Hammerboy* came from South Korea, and there just aren't that many Korean animations in the US. It's something that looks like anime

but isn't anime. And sadly, because of this, a lot of anime fans will immediately turn away. (Never mind that a lot of anime is actually sent to Korean studios to be drawn.)

*Hammerboy's* good. Don't believe me? Well, would you believe this...

-*Hammerboy* was one of only four finalists selected from 400 entries in the 2004 New York International Children's Animation Festival.

-*Hammerboy* overwhelmingly won the Viewer's Choice Award at the 2003 Big Apple Anime Fest.

-*Hammerboy* took the Grand Prix Award at the 15th Cairo International Children's Film Festival, an award decided by the votes of children from 40 countries.

-*Hammerboy* took the 2004 President's Award from the Korea Culture and Contents Agency.

-*Hammerboy* won the Korea IT Promotion Agency's 2003 Contents Award.

-*Hammerboy* was awarded the Special Prize at the 2003 Puchon International Student Animation Festival.

-*Hammerboy's* original Korean theatrical run was extended over two months because of soldout shows.

-*Hammerboy's* been called a "bright and hopeful animation" by Academy Award-winning actress Susan Sarandon.

Wow, that's a lot. It took up more space than I thought it would, too. With not much room left, let me say this. While *Hammerboy's* been compared to Miyazaki, *Hammerboy* isn't Miyazaki. Further, *Hammerboy* isn't even anime. Instead, it's one of the first crown jewels of animation South Korea has to offer.

*Hammerboy's* unique. It's distinct. It's both universal and deeply rooted in very Korean values. It's also something, if you're a fan of animation and have an open mind, that deserves a look.

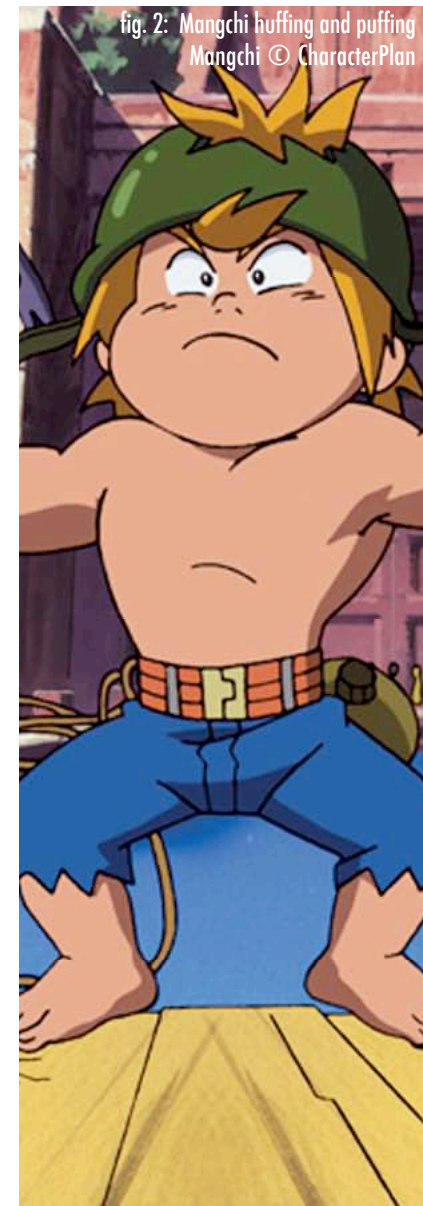


fig. 2: Mangchi huffing and puffing  
Mangchi © CharacterPlan

# Eat the Whales!

*(Are Japan's latest fads delicious or hard to swallow?)*

By Peter Tatara

You're a fan of Japanese Animation. Given that you've gotten this far into *Gogai! Gogai!*, I think that's a given. Congrats. Let me ask you this, though, are you a fan of Japanese culture?

You're a die-hard otaku Japanophile who *loves* absolutely everything to come out of Japan? Well, have you heard about Lucky Pierrot's kujira burger?

Lucky Pierrot, a hamburger chain in Hokkaido, is selling whale burgers. Silk Road Group, Lucky Pierrot's parent company,

recently held a contest, asking diners what type of burger they most wanted added to the menu. Whale and lamb were the top choices.

The whale burger – called the kujira burger – was first suggested by Toshihiro Okawa, an employee at a whale meat sales company in Tokyo. The burger features deep fried minke whale meat and lettuce topped with mayonnaise for 380 yen. The lamb burger – the Genghis Khan burger – first came from Koichi Sera, a professor at Hokkai Gakuen University.

Lucky Pierrot's whale burgers went on sale two days after the International Whale Commission stood by its ban on commercial whaling. Japan's been seeking to rescind the ban since 1986.

And, of course, how do you wash down that whale burger? Why, with a glass of vinegar, of course. Yes, in addition to eating deep-fried whale, Japan's trendiest are downing vinegar. Vinegar supposedly promotes circulation, aids in recovery from exhaustion, stimulates the appetite, and assists in digestion.

Well, what do you think? Still crazy about everything Japanese? Oh, you are? That's cool. Sometime, I'll share my first experience eating natto. And the hilarity that ensued when I ordered natto but the waiter brought *naddo*! Eh, if you don't get it, look it up.

For more on whale burgers and vinegar shots, check out...

<http://www.news.com.au/story/0,10117,15706467-23109,00.html>

<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/getarticle.pl?nn20050611f1.htm>

*(Warm and fresh,  
baked with love)*

## My Mommy's Moon Cookies

By Peter and Kathleen Tatara

To get the taste of minke burgers and vinegar out of your mouth, I figured I'd share with you one of my mother's favorite recipes. She makes her moon cookies at every family gathering...

1/2 cup butter, softened  
1/2 cup shortening  
5 TBS sugar  
2 cups flour  
1/2 cup ground pecans

Mix butter and shortening until well creamed. Beat in sugar, flour, and pecans. Shape the stiff dough in your hands into crescent moons on cookie sheets. Bake at 375 for 10-15 minutes.

Remove cookies carefully from the cookie sheets when cool and dip into cinnamon sugar to coat (1/2 cups sugar mixed with 1/2 TSP cinnamon). These cookies always, always disappear fast.

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fig. 3: Pirate Doggy Poo asking Ninja Hoshimaru for an umbrella  
Hoshimaru © Mohiro Kitou / Kodansha  
Doggy Poo © Itasca Studio Inc.



## **Pirates vs. Ninjas** *The question of the ages*

Pirates? Ninjas? Pirates? Ninjas? *Pirates? Ninjas?* This question has been plaguing us at CPM for some time now. With money on the line and no end in sight, I now turn to you, loyal *Gogai! Gogai!* readers. Send a message to [animeclubs@teamcpm.com](mailto:animeclubs@teamcpm.com) with *Pirates* in the subject line if you think pirates would whoop the shinobi and *Ninjas* in the subject line if you think no swash-buckler could dare hold a candle to a master of ninjitsu.

Doubling your fun, let's also find out who's actually reading this. Send an e-mail to us with *Guy* in the subject if you're a guy and *Gal* if you're a gal.

We'll announce the results next issue. I got \$5 riding on the winners. And so that you've got an investment, too, we're picking one respondent (and his/her club) to win a CPM prize pack! You've got to enter both polls to win. Yar!

## **Practical Nihongo** *Essential Japanese*

As a kid, I started watching anime on TV. I didn't know what it was, but I knew it was different from other cartoons, and I knew I liked it. Growing up, I've since learned exactly why anime is different and a lot more about Japanese culture, and – one day – it's my hope to go to Tokyo.

As such, I've been practicing my Japanese and have some useful phrases I'd like to share. A big huzzah and kudos to Shigeki Morii for his help...

*How much is your umbrella?*  
Anata no kasa wa ikura desuka?

*I like watermelon more than you.*  
Watashi wa anata yori suika no hou ga suki desu.

*I am not a samurai, but I hope to be.*  
Watashi wa samurai dewa arimasenga, samurai ni naritai desu.

# It Burns, Sempai, It Burns!

## *(Spotlight on the DC Anime Club)*

*An Interview with  
the DC Anime Club's  
Chris Wanamaker*

Every month *Gogai! Gogai!* is going to take an uncomfortably close look at one anime club and expose its dirty laundry to the world!

How do you get your club chosen as *Gogai! Gogai!*'s club of the month? Truthfully, it's completely random. We put all the club names on a bulletin board, close our eyes, and throw office supplies at the board until someone complains. Then, we ask whoever yelled at us to pick one of the clubs from the board.

That, *Gogai! Gogai!* readers, is how we choose our club of the month. Now, without any further blathering on by me, it's time to get to know our first club of the month more than you ever wanted to! Let's go!

This month, starting us off, we spoke to the DC Anime Club and have printed their G and PG rated responses below.

*Where's the DC Anime Club located?*

We, the DC Anime Club, are located at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G St, NW Washington DC.

*How many attend a regular meeting?*

About 20-30 people attend club meetings regularly.

*How often do you meet?*

We meet at least once a week. Sometimes two due to our new weeknight meetings.

*How long has the club been around?*

The DC Anime Club has been around since June 5, 2003.

*What's the library think about the DC Anime Club?*

The library thinks the DC Anime Club is a good source for knowing what manga to have at the library. We have a lot of teens that come to the library simply for the club.

*Do you do anything other than watch anime?*

During club meetings we give out prizes via raffle, Name that Anime Tune, or Anime Trivia. Besides anime, our club has a Video Game Day. After our club meetings, we go out for sushi. We are planning out such activities as a DC Anime Art Show, End of the Year Cosplay Party, Cosplay Gatherings, and a web-manga about our club mascot.

*Do you have a snack break? What are your favorite snacks?*

What's our fav snacks?! Pocky, the otaku snack of choice, of course.

*If I gave your club one free ticket to Tokyo, how long before your club would erupt into a bloodbath?*

Rather quickly.

*Are the guys in your club yaoi-tastic?*

We don't look at each other in that way.

*If one member of your club took over the world in a giant robot, who would it be?*

I think that one of the female members who we refer to as "Doomsday" would be the one with a giant world-conquering robot.

*If one member, with only a katana, led a rebellion to stop her, who would it be?*

The member with the katana would probably be the one we call "Little Slugger."

*I'm left-handed. How many DC Anime Club members are left-handed?*

We don't know how many are left-handed or right-handed. Gomen.

*Do you have a website?*

<http://dcanime.umd.edu>

*Pirates vs. Ninjas? Who'd win?*

Ninjas could wipe the floor with the pirates. Go Ninja! Go Ninja! Go!

# Will Work For Anime

## *(20 Questions with CPM's Newest Intern)*

So, you like anime? You say you want to work for an anime company? Well, it's not all tempura parties and fanservice. (Granted, that is part of it.) To let you in on what it's really like, we're starting at the ground floor, having a chat with CPM's newest intern, Meghan Grant....

*Where do you call home?*

The 'burbs of Jersey. During the school year, I go to Ramapo College.

*How'd you end up at CPM?*

As a Communications major, I was looking for an internship. I had heard about CPM from a friend who worked here before and decided to apply. I sent in my resume, landed an interview, and poof, here I am.

*If you found \$100,000,000 on the street, what would you do with it?*

First I'd try and find who it belonged to. If I couldn't, then with a clear conscience I'd get myself a *Dance Dance Revolution* machine and a nice set of wheels.

*What's the most interesting show you've seen while interning at CPM?*

I would have to say *Shadowstar Narutaru*. The first episode is disarmingly cute and uplifting, but it takes a darker, more sinister turn soon after. The complete change of pace and unusual characters really drew me in. Kind of like *Pokemon* meets *Children of the Corn*.

*Do you like pizza? If so, what's your favorite topping? Least favorite?*

It's okay, but I'm rather tired of it. It was lunch and dinner every Friday during elementary and high school. My favorite topping is any kind of meat, and my least favorite is just about any vegetable. I lead a very healthy lifestyle.

*If you were a muffin, what kind of muffin would you be?*

Something low-carb because then I'd stand the least chance of being eaten. With raisins. Lots and lots of raisins.

*What do your parents think about you interning at an anime company?*

My parents like to see me doing what I enjoy and getting something out of the experience.

*What do your friends think about you interning at an anime company?*

The common reaction I get is "cool!" A few told me that anime is sexist, others want me to get them free hentai. A lot are amazed that I was able to get a position in the industry. My advice is just put your resume and yourself out there. You'd be surprised what effort gets you.

*Did you ever have an imaginary friend?*

I don't think so, I always had my cousin Adam around to play with. He lived downstairs.

*What are you going to have for lunch?*

Brown bag lunch of turkey with ranch dressing on whole wheat.

*Is working at an anime company just like you imagined? What's different?*

It's a surprising amount of work to produce anime titles. What fans think it's like and what it actually is are quite different. It's fun to be a part of bringing the medium I love to fellow fans. Working on the inside allows me to learn more about getting a show from Japan to America. You know your job is awesome when office chatter consists of talking about cosplay and series discussions.

*What do you want to be when you grow up?*

Grow up? I can legally rent vacuums. I think I'm rather grown up already. In the future, I hope to be a screenwriter. I've always loved to be a part of creative productions, more behind the scenes than up on stage. This is one of the reasons why a position at CPM appealed to me. With some luck and effort I'll try to turn the pipe dream into a reality.

*Pirates vs. Ninjas? Who'd win?*

Tough call, but I'm going to go with pirates. A pirate with a peg leg and eye patch can kick ass and steal booty. Let's see a one-eyed, limping ninja do that.

## Free Office Supplies

(This month's lucky swag winners!)

Actually, because this is *Gogai! Gogai!*'s first issue, no one submitted any content yet, and because there have been no submissions, there are no swag winners.

From here on out, though, every time you answer a poll or write an article or send in some art, you'll be entered into one of *Gogai! Gogai!*'s monthly contests.

For the slackers, each month we're going to select one person who answered both of our poll questions to take home a CPM Prize Pack including a sampling of new and classic DVDs, posters, stickers, and genuine CPM office supplies – they may even be autographed.

For the more creative, any essays, poems, recipes, or art will be entered into their own drawing. And of course, if you win, your club gets a Prize Pack, too!

# Full Belly Anime Zone

(No more nights of ramen and/or stomach pains!) By Peter Tatara

*Sushi Regular. Sushi Deluxe. Steamed Gyoza. Oshinko Sashimi. Kitsune Udon. Gilled Unagi. Sukiyaki. Beef Negimaki. Vegetable Tempura Bento Box.*

What do all these have in common? Thanks to CPM, you can now afford them all. Oh? I'm an anime fan. If you take a survey of everyone working at CPM, more often than not, you'll find we're all anime fans. As such, at the end of the day, we go home and buy anime, and when we come in the next day, we scratch our heads as to why anime DVDs are \$30. We know what it costs to make this stuff.

We talked about this. We yelled about this. We dropped our prices.

If you visit us at [CentralParkMedia.com](http://CentralParkMedia.com) or log onto [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), [BestBuy.com](http://BestBuy.com),

or [DeepDiscountDVD.com](http://DeepDiscountDVD.com), or even actually hoof it to your local Suncoast, you should see a lot of CPM DVDs for only \$9.95 a pop. That's right, anime for under \$10. What kind of titles can you buy and still have money for yummy, yummy Japanese food?

*Project A-ko, Animation Runner Kuromi, Descendants of Darkness, DNA2, Battle Arena Toshinden, Geobreeders, and Harlock Saga* are just the start.

Are we bringing anime back to the people? Are we making anime collectable again? Guilty on both accounts, but we'd just like to think we're making anime fans happy and keeping them well-fed. Buy some DVDs and get some edamame on your way home.

I know, I know. You're welcome.



Fig. 4: Nong Shim ramen

### You're All Winners!

Who am I kidding? You're all winners. To show our thanks for you signing up, enter code *GogaiSept* into [CPMPress.com](http://CPMPress.com) before the end of the month to take 50% off any manga or manhwa order!

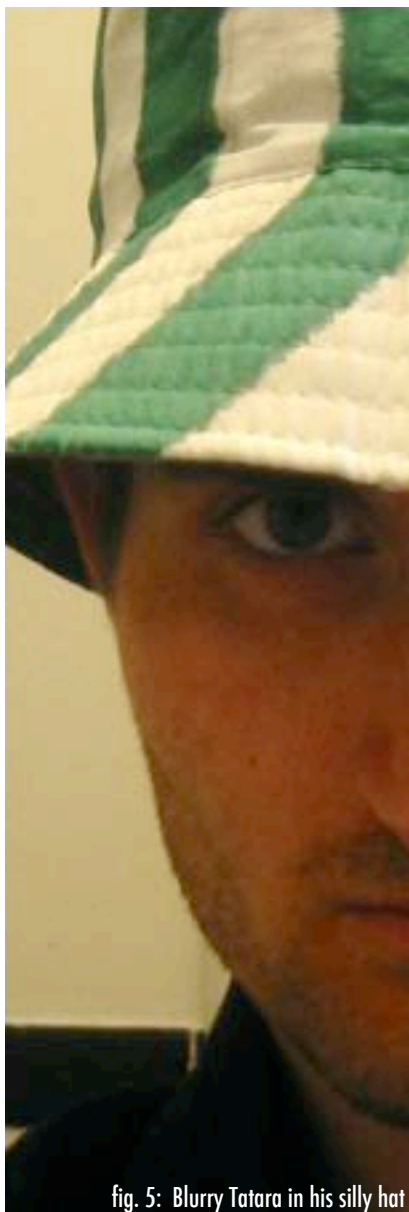


fig. 5: Blurry Tatara in his silly hat

# Geta Boushi

By Peter Tatara

*(Learn what it's like to work at a con and ruin a hat!)*

Growing up, my dad used to take me to Science Fiction conventions. I always had a great time. With the start of college, though, my time was eaten up with other things, and it wasn't until I started at CPM that I got back into the con scene.

My first con with CPM was this year's AnimeNEXT, and it was a trial by fire, not only working a con for my first time but also representing CPM at our panel discussion. I had watched some other industry panels and didn't like the way they were run, so when it was my turn, I went up with one of CPM's interns (and good friend Sippy) and sat on the table at the front of the room. We had an informative, informal talk rather than just listing release dates. Rave reviews.

At my second con, Anime Expo, CPM's panel was enhanced with some snazzy video clips. Plus, I dressed up. Well,

cosplayed up. I fashioned an Urahara Kisuke hat from a \$1 hat and \$4 fabric marker. Urahara's a shopkeeper (and, of course, super-secret former-captain of a special ghost-police squad) from *Bleach*, one of the most talked-about shows currently airing in Japan. I felt, considering I was spending 14-hours-a-day selling stuff, a shopkeeper's hat was apropos. At Anime Expo, and every con since, I've been asked where I got my hat and how much it cost. Con-goers have been perpetually amazed I made the thing for \$5, expecting it to be professionally-made and running about \$70.

Anime conventions are home to a lot of rare, obscure, and overpriced trinkets you can't find anywhere else (expect everywhere on the internet). I've been going to cons with shopping lists, looking for things for friends, and summing up a

half dozen similar stories with one, my girlfriend (sorry, I'm taken) wanted a plush Kon. Kon is a stuffed bear (and, of course, super-strong anti-ghost commando) also from *Bleach*. I found a Kon doll easily enough. How much did this seven inches of felt run? \$50. After staring at the thing, pointing to my industry badge, and hoping the dealer would develop a conscience, I walked away. He, obviously, didn't care about me having enough money for a vegetable tempura bento box afterwards.

What's the quick moral of this story? And, why didn't it make sense? Answering the second one first, it was about anime cons. Are you expecting a gathering of thousands of anime fans to make sense? As for the moral, things (except for CPM DVDs) are expensive at cons. Stock up on water long before you're in line if you know what's good for you.

# 1-800-YAOI

By Peter Tatara

*(It's out! Finally! Buy it! Now, let me get back to work!)*

Before I joined CPM, a lot of things were discussed with me. About the only thing that wasn't was that my telephone number is the yaoi hotline. Huh?

That's right. If you call up the number listed on BeBeautifulManga.com, the phone on my desk rings. Now, while I have no problem being the yaoi answer man (I'll admit it, they are pretty), it was quite the experience sitting down my first day and being told that any and all yaoi calls go to me.

So, what's the single most-asked question by yaoi readers? *When's Target in the Finder coming out?* I've been asked this steadily once, twice, twenty times a day. Well, in case any *Gogai! Gogai!* readers are interested, *Finder Series 1: Target in the Finder* was released on August 7, and it's very, very, very pretty.

If you can't find *Target in the Finder* at your local store, you can order it direct from BeBeautifulManga.com, and now that it's out, I can finally get some work done. Huh? When's *Finder Series 2: Cage in the Finder* coming? November 7! It's coming November 7!

## ***Next Issue!*** ***(Planning a second issue? Aren't we cocky.)***

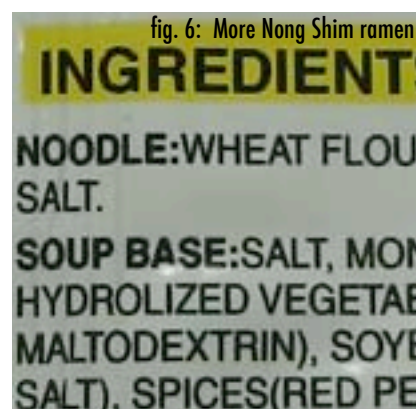
You've made it through the first issue of *Gogai! Gogai!* Huzzah and kudos to you! Reward yourself by entering coupon code *GogaiSept* into CPMPress.com before the month is through to take 50% off any order!

Next up, what's coming in our October issue? I'm going to talk about how we play hide-and-seek at CPM, and hopefully there'll be some ghost stories and spooky Halloween pictures from all you.

Remember, if you submit anything to *Gogai! Gogai!*, not only will your words and pictures be seen by (almost) millions of anime fans, but every time you enter, you're entering yourself and your club into our monthly drawings!

(The ramen below isn't a prize. Rather, it's the star of a story coming next time.) And, with that, have a nice month and *Gogai! Gogai!* will see you in October. Bye Bye, Sayonara, and Aloha.

## ***(It's tiny so we can fit it all. There's not much space.)*** ***The Small Print!***



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